

work of this incomparable exemplar of the American dream.

RECOGNIZING ODE LEE MADDOX,
MACK LEE TAYLOR, AND ROBERT C. (BOB) MCWILLIAMS III

HON. MIKE ROSS

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 4, 2001

Mr. ROSS. Mr. Speaker, I wish to recognize the legacy and achievements of three distinguished Arkansans who passed away recently.

For eight years, I had the privilege of serving in the Arkansas General Assembly with a distinct public servant and a champion for our schools, state representative Ode Lee Maddox. Rep. Maddox was a lifelong resident of a small town called Oden, Arkansas, where he represented the people in the Arkansas House of Representatives from 1957 through 1998.

While I served across the state capitol building in the Senate, I like so many of my colleagues, held the highest respect and admiration for Rep. Maddox.

Rep. Maddox loved politics and loved serving in the state legislature. More importantly, though, he loved education. He spent 42 years working for the Oden School District, including 31 as superintendent of the school district. He started his career as a bus driver and coached two state champion basketball teams in 1948 and 1954.

In the state legislature, colleagues affectionately referred to Rep. Maddox as "Mr. Education." In fact, one of his former colleagues recently noted, "He supported all of the education bills, if they were good bills." In 1983, Rep. Maddox helped secure funding for the Rich Mountain Community College in nearby Mena, Arkansas, which became one of his proudest accomplishments.

Known for his quiet, easygoing personality, Rep. Maddox gained the respect of his peers through his ability to bring people together on important issues, such as education. Away from work, he loved being outdoors—hunting and fishing—and spending time with his family.

Those of us who knew and loved him will remember Rep. Maddox for his devotion to his family and his community, and to seeing that our young people are provided the best education possible.

Mack Lee Taylor, of Magnolia, Arkansas, was also a leader in his community as well as the banking industry. He, too, was a lifelong resident of Arkansas.

Born in Warren, Arkansas, Mack moved with his family to Magnolia as a teenager. After graduating from Magnolia High School, he earned his bachelor's degree at Southern State College—now Southern Arkansas University—and graduated from the Southwest Graduate School of Banking at Southern Methodist University in Dallas, Texas, before starting his career at First National Bank in Magnolia.

During his career, Mack helped organize the Metropolitan National Bank of Little Rock,

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where he served as executive vice president and director. He later returned to Magnolia to serve as executive vice president and director and, eventually, as president and chief operating officer of Farmers Bank and Trust.

Mack served on the boards of directors for several prominent organizations including the Southern Arkansas University Foundation, Arkansas Children's Hospital Foundation and Arkansas Council on Economic Education. He was an active member of numerous civic groups such as the Magnolia Rotary Club and the Magnolia Economic Development Corporation and was a leader in organizations like the Arkansas Bankers Association, the Southern Arkansas University Board of Governors, the South Arkansas Development Council, the Chamber of Commerce and others.

In 1994, he was honored as a distinguished alumnus of Southern Arkansas University.

Mack Taylor was a pillar in his community. His death is a great loss not only to his friends and loved ones, but to the people of Magnolia and all of Arkansas.

The people of Arkansas also lost a distinguished veteran and outstanding citizen in Robert C. (Bob) McWilliams III.

Born in Memphis, Tennessee, Bob was raised and educated in Little Rock and Jonesboro, Arkansas. After graduating from Arkansas State University in Jonesboro with a bachelor's degree in military science, he received his master's degree in human resources from Central Michigan University and attended the Army Command and General Staff College.

Commissioned into the Army in 1964, Bob served two tours in Vietnam, where he flew helicopters as an Army aviator. During his service to our country, he received numerous awards and decorations including the Distinguished Flying Cross, Air Medal, Bronze Star Medal, Army Commendation Medal, National Defense Service Medal, and senior aviator wings.

Bob spent 30 years as a government employee, during which time he served as Provost Marshal and Chief of Security at the Pine Bluff Arsenal in Pine Bluff, Arkansas, and president of the local chapter of the American Federation of Government Employees (AFGE) at Pine Bluff Arsenal.

He was also pastor of the Sherill United Methodist Church.

Throughout his life, Bob dedicated himself to serving God and our nation, and to helping his fellow citizens and working families. He will be long remembered by all those whose lives he touched.

Today, I honor these three individuals—Ode Lee Maddox, Mack Lee Taylor, and Robert C. (Bob) McWilliams—for their commitment to giving back to their neighbors, their communities, and their country, and I hope that their lives will serve as an example to future generations.

TRIBUTE TO VIOLINIST LIN CHO-LIANG

HON. DAVID WU

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 4, 2001

Mr. WU. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the award-winning violinist Lin Cho-Liang—Jimmy Lin to his English-speaking friends.

Born in Taiwan, Jimmy Lin is an award-winning violinist whose performances bridge cultural and geographical gaps. Shortly after I left for the United States with my family, Jimmy Lin and his family moved into the same house where I lived in Hsinchu, Taiwan and now I am proud to call him a friend.

Jimmy Lin was born in 1960 in Hsinchu. After practicing on a toy violin until he was five years old, his parents bought him a quarter-size violin and he soon started lessons. His father, a physicist, brought home recordings for him to listen to and to study. At age 12, he left for Australia where he spent three years studying the violin before arriving at the Juilliard School in New York.

Jimmy Lin made his New York debut at age 19 at Avery Fisher Hall playing Mozart's Third Concerto and has had a distinguished music career ever since. Last year he was awarded Musical America's Instrumentalist of the Year and, in 1999 received the Musician of the Year award. Lin has also won Gramophone's Record of the Year and has been nominated for a Grammy award.

Jimmy Lin appears annually with major orchestras and on key recital and chamber music series all over the world. He is also a renowned solo artist who is in demand all over the world. Last year, he celebrated Isaac Stern's 80th birthday in a concert in Tokyo. During a trip to Taiwan to meet with business and government leaders this month, I have the opportunity to see my friend, Jimmy Lin, perform in Taipei and to visit our home in Hsinchu together.

As the Los Angeles Times wrote: "Jimmy Lin . . . has become a beloved icon. . . . He communicates through music to that wider audience that always seems to recognize and reward the rare combination of virtuosity and humanity."

Mr. Speaker, I am proud of his accomplishments and pleased to honor him in the United States Congress for his dedication to cultural understanding through music.

WETLANDS RESERVE PROGRAM ENHANCEMENT ACT

HON. CHARLES W. "CHIP" PICKERING

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 4, 2001

Mr. PICKERING. Mr. Speaker, today I am proud to introduce the Wetlands Reserve Program Enhancement Act of 2001 in order to extend authority for the Wetlands Reserve Program (WRP) authorized under the Farm Bill of 1996. The WRP is just the kind of non-regulatory, voluntary approach to conservation that works best for environmental protection and wildlife enhancement.

Since its inception in 1996, the Wetlands Reserve Program has restored over one million acres of former wetlands to the benefit of waterfowl and other wildlife species while providing financial relief to struggling farm families. The program has been so successful, in fact, that for every five farmers that wish to enroll in the WRP, only one is accepted. This clearly shows how popular the program is with farmers and wildlife enthusiasts.

In my home state of Mississippi, the WRP has proven to be extremely popular with private landowners, and for good reason. With commodity prices being as low as they are, the program is a great benefit to Mississippi farmers who could not otherwise afford to stay on their land or pass it on to future generations.

Across the country, thousands of landowners have discovered that the WRP is an attractive alternative to farming high-risk and high-cost crop land that is frequently at risk of flooding. The WRP provides the necessary, voluntary incentives to restore such areas to wetlands. The landowner, in turn, is free to use his or her WRP incentive payment to refinance debt, upgrade machinery, or to buy additional land to make their farming operations more profitable.

This additional land enrolled in the program not only benefits farmers, but also wildlife and wildlife habitat. In the Mississippi Delta states, most WRP land is planted in high-quality hardwood trees that flood in the winter and provide critical habitat for waterfowl and other species. In fact, the WRP has become one of the largest and most successful wetland restoration programs ever attempted on private lands.

The program is also restoring waterfowl breeding habitat in states like South Dakota, Minnesota, and Wisconsin to name a few. It is restoring migration habitat across the United States including Illinois, Iowa, Ohio, and New York. Most of all, the WRP is restoring wintering habitat in such diverse states as California, Texas, Arkansas, and Louisiana.

As the Co-Chairman of the Congressional Sportsmen's Caucus and a lifelong supporter of Ducks Unlimited, I recognize another wonderful benefit of the Wetlands Reserve Program. Like many states, the Great State of Mississippi honors a proud waterfowling tradition. Every day the WRP helps improve waterfowl populations and enhance wetlands habitat to create new opportunities for sportsmen and women to participate in the time-honored tradition of duck hunting. As the father of five young boys, I am blessed with the opportunity to pass the family tradition of waterfowling down to them. I savor the memories of early morning duck hunts that I had with my father and grandfather as a young boy. These opportunities taught me a deep respect for the outdoors and helped me to develop a deep appreciation for nature and wildlife. These are opportunities and values that I am passing down to my own sons, and providing waterfowl habitat through programs like the WRP help make it all possible.

Mr. Speaker, my legislation authorizes up to 250,000 acres of marginal farm land to be enrolled in the WRP through 2005. It is exactly the kind of non-regulatory conservation program that landowners want and wildlife need as we begin our entrance into the next cen-

tury. I urge my colleagues to join with me and the original cosponsors of the Wetlands Reserve Program Enhancement Act to ensure that this program remains a viable option to farmers, wildlife, and the environment.

UPON INTRODUCTION OF PRISON INMATE ACT OF 2001

HON. FRANK R. WOLF

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 4, 2001

Mr. WOLF. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing the Federal Inmate Work Act of 2001, a bill to help reduce crime by providing federal inmates real-world job skills while in prison. This bill would reform Federal Prison Industries so it can do a better job of rehabilitating our prison population before prisoners are let back out into society. Besides reducing crime through better rehabilitation of our inmate population, this legislation will improve the U.S. economy. It will create jobs by returning industries now operating offshore back to the U.S. and allowing private companies to compete with FPI for federal contracts.

This legislation reforms Federal Prison Industries in a number of ways. First, it would allow private companies in the United States to use federal inmate labor to produce items that would otherwise be produced by foreign labor. It would phase out the mandatory source requirement for federal agency purchases from Federal Prison Industries and puts them under the same authority and standards that govern state prison employment programs. It allows for increased collection for child support and victim restitution. It reduces the cost of incarceration by increasing collections for rooms and board costs. It requires that FPI establish goals for contracts with small, minority or women-owned businesses as well as with organizations that employ blind or severely disabled workers.

Mr. Speaker, today, there are more than 1.9 million Americans behind bars and the prison population continues to rise at an alarming rate. Approximately a quarter of those prisoners complete their sentences every year and return to society. Most of those former inmates, however, have never had a real job. Within the federal system, there were 145,125 inmates confined at the end of FY 2000. Current projections indicate that the federal inmate population will rise to more than 200,000 by the end of FY 2007.

We just cannot continue to lock up thousands of men and women every year and hope that they will somehow mysteriously rehabilitate themselves in prison without learning a skill. We cannot continue to allow federal prisons to become finishing schools for crime, where criminals are paroled as experts in their craft. If the only thing you know how to do when you leave prison is steal or deal drugs, that is what you will do to survive when you are released.

If the current prison work system is not augmented, prisons will become increasingly overcrowded, violent, and, most alarmingly, Americans will face a higher crime rate as the rate of unrehabilitated inmates are let out into soci-

ety. Prisons should be turning out inmates ready to reenter mainstream society equipped to productively contribute to their communities. The best way to accomplish this is to put federal prisoners to work. Many convicts can be reformed if given the opportunity to learn skills other than those necessary to be successful in crime.

Mr. Speaker, a 16-year study by the Justice Department of federal inmates, the Post-Release Employment Project, has demonstrated convincingly that participation in prison industries/vocational training programs has a positive effect on post-release employment and recidivism. The study revealed that inmates who worked in prison industries or completed vocational apprenticeship programs were 24 percent less likely to commit crimes than nonprogram participants. The data also revealed that these programs provide even greater benefit to minority and low income groups that are at the greatest risk for potentially returning to a criminal lifestyle upon their release.

Employment, particularly industrial jobs, is the key factor in combating the adverse impact of crowding in a prison setting. Work, education, and vocational training not only reduce the debilitating idleness of a crowded institution, but offer important security management benefits such as supervised time out of cells.

Idleness, on the other hand, breeds apathy and discontent. Boredom turns to frustration resulting in violent and criminal behavior. The old adage that "idleness is the devil's workshop" reaffirms what can happen when an inmate's time is not productively occupied.

Mr. Speaker, this legislation will also be beneficial to the U.S. economy. First this legislation would revamp the Federal Prison Industries program by allowing federal inmates to produce goods that are presently being made offshore. For example, our prison populations could learn to produce items such as televisions and VCRs and other products now provided by non-American sources. This public-private partnership may actually help improve our balance of trade by reducing imports. A panel made up of representatives from the Departments of Commerce and Labor, the International Trade Commission, the Small Business Administration, the business community and organized labor would ensure that domestic labor was not threatened by this new authority for FPI.

This also would create ancillary jobs in the domestic economy as a result of bringing back certain industries whose entire economic support structure is located overseas. Bringing back manufacturing jobs that have gone overseas will create other jobs. Raw materials will need to be brought into the prisons and finished products will have to be taken out. This will mean jobs for the local trucking companies. Teachers and craftsmen will need to be hired to teach the inmates the necessary skills. This is more than just giving federal prisoners the necessary skills to become productive members of society, it is about creating jobs for Americans, on American soil.

Finally, the bill also facilitates restitution programs that meet the true meaning of restitution by setting up programs where the inmate directly compensates the victim of that inmate's crime. Programs that merely take